

fact
**Telephone
Monitors**
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Are Halted

United Press International

A telephone company executive testified yesterday that about 36 million long distance calls were monitored last year but that all such monitoring of customer-to-customer calls has now been stopped.

Hubert Kertz, vice president for operations of the American Telephone and Telegraph Co., testified before a Senate Judiciary subcommittee which has been studying eavesdropping and snooping. He said the monitoring, designed to maintain quality of service and done only during the initial connection, involved "roughly three one hundredths of 1 per cent" of the year's 120 billion phone calls.

Kertz testified after subcommittee Chairman Edward V. Long (D-Mo.) sharply assailed officials of the New England Telephone and Telegraph Co. — an AT&T subsidiary—for their refusal to let subcommittee investigators ask questions in private of

Boston operators who participated in the so-called "service observing."

"What did you have to cover up?" asked Long during the testimony of William Hogan, vice president of New England Telephone and Telegraph Co.

Hogan replied that he refused, on the advice of the Company's attorneys to let employees be questioned without counsel on Company premises during working hours with the apparent sanction of the Company. He said the Company had nothing to cover up.

Long said the subcommittee had information that "serious things" had been done in the New England Company's monitoring rooms and that Federal agencies were permitted inside the rooms.

Attorney Edward B. Hanify testified that he advised Hogan not to allow private interviews on Company property, on Company time. He said the Company owed it to its employees to make sure that any such interviews were conducted fairly and not "in star chamber" since employees might be under a kind of "implicit coercion" to participate. Hanify said the Company would place "no obstacle" in the way of free time interviews at the homes of the employees.